

BOOK NOTICE

Rocky Mountain Naturalists. By Joseph Ewan. The University of Denver Press, Denver, 10, Colorado. 1950. 9 × 6 inches. XVI + 358 p. 9 port. \$5.00

This attractively printed volume, with its interesting endpapers, is an indication of the slowly developing appreciation of this country's naturalists. Such books are comparatively few and far between and many naturalists do not appear to be aware of the background of their science.

The author, a well-known botanist, bibliographer, and historian, on the faculty of Tulane University, has gathered together seven of his previously published papers on the botanical explorers of Colorado and to these has added additional essays, explanatory notes, bibliography, and an extensive roster of natural history collectors that occupies 206 of the book's 358 pages. Although eight of Mr. Ewan's pen portraits describe botanical explorers, the ninth is a tribute to the memory of that well-known versatile entomologist, Professor T. D. A. Cockerell. I suppose this latter essay will be of most interest to entomologists, but on the other hand, there is no reason why entomologists should not enjoy reading about pioneer botanists, especially when the accounts are well-written.

The author's extensive roster (1682–1932) of natural history collectors is both biographical and bibliographical. It identifies hundreds of ornithologists, foresters, botanists, horticulturists, zoologists, mammalogists, mycologists, biologists, etc., professionals and amateurs, including 70 entomologists, who collected in the Rocky Mountain region. While the accounts are of necessity brief, enough information is given to satisfy most taxonomists and references are cited for the benefit of those needing more information. As time goes on, this roster will be more and more appreciated and used by future students and historians.

Rocky Mountain Naturalists is a noteworthy and satisfying book. I have only one criticism. The roster fails to give any account of one Rocky Mountain naturalist who should not have been overlooked, this being Joseph Ewan.—HARRY B. WEISS